

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 15, please replace the first paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Fig. 16, should a cow go down while the stanchion release bars are disposed in their locked-in position of Figs. 13-15, a dairyman can easily manually lift one or both of the flaps 58,60 to raise the lock slots free of latch ~~stud~~ pin 55 or 55A.

One or both of the release bars 40 can then be manually swung outwardly away to thereby increase the width of the opening between the lower parts of the release stanchions sufficiently that the downed cow can be withdrawn from the cattle stanchion apparatus.

On page 17, please replace the second paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

Each latch head LH includes a pair of mirror-image flaps 80 and 82 pivotally connected at their proximate ends by pivot pins 83 and 84 to a bifurcated support strap 86 having its lower end affixed as by welding to the top rail 32' above the mid-section of the stanchion release bar assemblies A'. The intermediate lower ends of each flap 80 and 82

are formed with upwardly inclined extending elongated temperature compensation apertures 87 and 88. Outwardly of these flap apertures 87 and 88, the flaps are formed with upwardly ~~extending~~ lock slots 90 and 91. The inner upper surface of each latch head LH is formed with an upstanding finger pad 92, 93 (Figs. 43 and 44) for a purpose to be described hereinafter. It should also be noted that the upper and lower edges of the temperature compensation apertures 87 and 88 are formed with outwardly flared lips 94 for a purpose to be described hereinafter.

On page 18, please replace the first paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

Positioner rod PR fixedly supports a plurality of pairs of like, parallel flap lifting studs 95 and 96 aligned respectively with temperature compensating apertures 87 and 88 of flaps 80 and 82. These studs serve to control the vertical position of the flaps 80 and 88 relative to the ~~locking~~ latch pins 55' and 55A' of the stanchion release bars 44', 46'. When the studs 95 and 96 extend vertically downwardly, as shown in Figs. 21, 22 and

30-33, the outer ends of the flaps 80 and 82 will be rest on the upper surface of the positioner rod PR so as to be disposed in the path of the ~~latching studs~~ latch pins 55', 55A'. Rotation of the positioner rod PR and hence the lifting ~~pins~~ studs through about 45° upwardly from their downwardly extending release stanchion bar locked position will partially raise the flaps 80 and 82 to their upwardly inclined cow training position of Figs. 23 and 24, by the abutment of the studs with the lips 94. Rotation of the positioner rod PR through approximately a further 45° will cause the lifting studs 95 and 96 to lift the flaps 80 and 82 to their fully raised unlocked position shown in Figs. 25 and 38.

On page 18 and 19, please replace the second and continuing paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

Positioner rod PR is selectively moved to and locked in a position wherein the lifting studs 95 and 96 extend downwardly, an upwardly inclined position and a horizontal position by means of a positioner rod locking handle member M shown particularly in Figs. 27, 28 and 29. Referring to these figures, the positioner rod locking

handle member M includes a support plate 100 which is formed with a box 101 that encompasses the upper rail 32'. Support plate 100 is rigidly supported by the upper end of endpost 36'. The upper portion of support plate 100 is formed with a forwardly and upwardly inclined locking flange 102. The upper end of support plate 100 is provided with a pivot pin 104 which pivotally supports a manually moveable handle 106. The end of handle 106 is fixedly attached to a bifurcated strap 107 having its sides fixedly attached to the positioner rod PR whereby angular movement of the handle will effect concurrent rotation of the positioner rod. Pivot pin 104 also pivotally supports a hook 108 which is selectively engagable with the locking flange 102 to support the handle 106 in its rearwardly and upwardly inclined position of Fig. 27. Pivot pin 104 additionally pivotally supports a latchfinger 110 formed with cut-out 111. Referring again to Fig. 27, with the handle 106 positively locked in its position shown in this figure by the engagement of hook 108 with flange 102 the lifting ~~pins~~ studs 95 and 96 are secured in their downwardly extending position of Figs. 21 and 22.

On page 20 and 21, please replace the second and continuing paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

In the operation of the preferred form of cattle stanchion apparatus S' shown in Figs. 21-44, in Fig. 21 the parts thereof are shown ready to be moved into a cow feeding position where cows (not shown) are free to move into and out of each head-receiving opening O'. When a cow inserts her head into the upper portion of opening O' and moves her head downwardly into a feeding position, designated FP' in Fig. 22, the upper ends of the stanchion release bars 40', 42' simultaneously swing towards one-another under the downward pressure applied by the cow's neck. The upper ends of the stanchion release bars will then cause the ~~latching~~ latch pins 55', 55A' to engage a curved cam surface 120 formed at the lower outer portions of the flaps 80 and 82 causing the lifting studs 95, 96 to exert an upward force against the flaps 80, 82 as indicated in Fig. 40, so as to lift the flaps a sufficient distance for the latch pins 55' and 55A' to snap into the lock slots 90 and 91 as shown in Figs. 22, 42 and 43. The stanchion release bars will then be locked into their generally vertically extending positions of Fig. 22 thereby locking the

cow within the stanchion apparatus S' in a feeding position until such time as the dairyman elects to free the cows from such feeding position. The positioner rod PR can be temporarily locked into its position of Figs. 21 and 22 by arranging the parts of the handle member M in their positions of Fig. 27. In the position of the parts shown in Figs. 22, 42 and 43, the cows can also be locked out of the stanchion apparatus.

On page 23 and 24, please replace the first and continuing paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now particularly to Figs. 36-39, it is important to note that the temperature compensating flap apertures 87 and 88 are of slightly inclined, elongated configuration. Such elongated configuration permits the lifting ~~pins~~ studs 95 and 96 to function satisfactorily despite variations in the length of the positioner rod PR caused by the expansion and contraction of the positioner rod which occurs upon extreme temperature changes of the positioner rod relative to the frame of the stanchion apparatus S'. Thus, in Fig. 36 the lifting stud 95 is shown in its downwardly extending position

under normal temperature conditions. In Fig. 37 the lifting ~~pin~~ stud 95 is shown in a second position to the right-hand side of its original position due to contraction of the positioner rod PR at extremely cold temperatures. When the positioner rod has been rotated through about 45° to its positions of Figs. 38 and 39 the lifting stud 95 will engage the upper edge of the temperature compensating aperture 87 so as to move the flap 80 into its raised position of these figures and Figs. 25 and 26. In Fig. 39 the positioner rod PR is shown as having increased in length due to an extremely high temperature causing lifting stud 95 to move to the left. Despite such movement to the left, the lifting stud 95 will still raise the flap 80 to its uppermost position. Provision of the elongated temperature compensating apertures 87 and 88 thereby permits effective operation of the stanchion apparatus despite elongation and contraction of the positioner rod under varying temperature conditions, since the lifting studs 95 and 96 can slide along the sloping surfaces of the apertures 87 and 88 as positioner rod PR expands and contracts while maintaining the flaps 80 and 82 in their raised position. With this arrangement it is

not necessary to utilize means for adjusting such relative spacing, as with the stanchion apparatus of Albers U.S. Patent No. RE32,728.